

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising the steps of:
 2. receiving an instant messaging (IM) address of a contact;
 3. receiving an email address of a contact;
 4. correlating the IM address to a single reference identifier (ID), the single reference ID being adapted to identify the individual contact; and
 5. correlating the email address to the single reference ID.
1. 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 2. receiving an email address of the individual contact; and
 3. correlating the email address of the individual contact to the reference ID.
1. 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 2. receiving a telephone number of the individual contact; and
 3. correlating the telephone number of the individual contact to the reference ID.
1. 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 2. receiving an address of the individual contact; and
 3. correlating the address of the individual contact to the reference ID.
1. 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 2. receiving personal information of the individual contact; and
 3. correlating the personal information of individual contact to the reference ID.

1 6. A method comprising the steps of:
2 receiving user input, the user input comprising multiple instant messaging (IM)
3 addresses of an individual contact, the multiple IM addresses comprising IM addresses
4 from different IM accounts, each of the different IM accounts being adapted to transmit
5 and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol; and
6 correlating each of the multiple IM addresses to a single reference identifier (ID),
7 the single reference ID being adapted to identify the individual contact.

1 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving an email address of the individual contact; and
3 correlating the email address of the individual contact to the reference ID.

1 8. The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving a telephone number of the individual contact; and
3 correlating the telephone number of the individual contact to the reference ID.

1 9. The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving an address of the individual contact; and
3 correlating the address of the individual contact to the reference ID.

1 10. The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving personal information of the individual contact; and
3 correlating the personal information of individual contact to the reference ID.

1 11. A system comprising:
2 receive logic configured to receive user input, the user input comprising multiple
3 instant messaging (IM) addresses of an individual contact, the multiple IM addresses
4 comprising IM addresses from different IM accounts, each of the different IM accounts
5 being adapted to transmit and receive IM messages using a different IM protocol; and
6 correlate logic configured to correlate each of the multiple IM addresses to a
7 single reference identifier (ID), the single reference ID being adapted to identify the
8 individual contact.

1 12. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 receive logic configured to receive an email address of the individual contact; and
3 correlate logic configured to correlate the email address of the individual contact
4 to the reference ID.

1 13. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 means for receiving an email address of the individual contact; and
3 means for correlating the email address of the individual contact to the reference
4 ID.

1 14. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 receive logic configured to receive a telephone number of the individual contact;
3 and
4 correlate logic configured to correlate the telephone number of the individual
5 contact to the reference ID.

1 15. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 means for receiving a telephone number of the individual contact; and
3 means for correlating the telephone number of the individual contact to the
4 reference ID.

1 16. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 receive logic configured to receive an address of the individual contact; and
3 correlate logic configured to correlate the address of the individual contact to the
4 reference ID.

1 17. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 means for receiving an address of the individual contact; and
3 means for correlating the address of the individual contact to the reference ID.

1 18. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 receive logic configured to receive personal information of the individual contact;
3 and
4 correlate logic configured to correlate the personal information of individual
5 contact to the reference ID.

1 19. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 means for receiving personal information of the individual contact; and
3 means for correlating the personal information of individual contact to the
4 reference ID.